Granting express bonding and tolling authority to regional mobility authorities

HB 157 by Krusee (Ogden)

DIGEST: HB 157 would have granted regional mobility authorities (RMAs) the same fiscal

powers and duties as the Texas Transportation Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation in regard to financing turnpike projects. The bill expressly would have authorized RMAs to issue turnpike revenue bonds, impose turnpike tolls, and obtain revenue from any other source to repay all or part of the

principal and interest on their turnpike revenue bonds.

GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO: "House Bill No. 157, which would give Regional Mobility Authorities the ability to issue turnpike revenue bonds and charge tolls, conflicts with other legislation. House Bill No. 3588 [by Krusee], which I have signed, covers bonding and toll authority for Regional Mobility Authorities in a more comprehensive manner. I am vetoing this

bill at the author's request."

RESPONSE: Rep. Mike Krusee, author of HB 157, said: "The issues addressed by this bill were

more than covered with the passage of HB 3588, which went even further in regard to bonding. HB 157 primarily was a backup measure that no longer is necessary."

Sen. Steve Ogden, the Senate sponsor, said: "HB 157 was vetoed by the governor

because similar provisions were passed in HB 3588."

NOTES: HB 157 was analyzed in the April 1 *Daily Floor Report*. HB 3588 was analyzed in

Part One of the May 9 Daily Floor Report.